

## **Public Notice**

In reply refer to:

Issuance Date:

**Public Notice No.** 200101075

26 October 2001

Application No.:

**Expiration Date:** 

Puncheon Branch

25 November 2001

Address comments to:

US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District

502 Eighth Street ATTN: CELRH-F

Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

## JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This notice serves as the Corps of Engineers' request to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection Agency to act on Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the following application.

**APPLICANT:** West Virginia Division of Highways 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East

Building Five, Room 110 Charleston, West Virginia

**LOCATION:** The proposed project is located on County Route 84, in Puncheoncamp Branch and Little Creek, near Leckie, McDowell County, West Virginia.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant proposes to place fill material into waters of the United States in conjunction with the replacement of an existing bridge with a box culvert and the relocation of a portion of Little Creek. Approximately 125 linear feet of Little Creek would be filled by this proposal. The existing channel is approximately 6 feet wide and approximately 3 feet deep. The applicant proposes to excavate 113 linear feet of new channel. Approximately 80 cubic yards of material excavated from the new channel would be used to fill the old channel. The banks of the new channel would be sloped at a 1:1 ratio.

Replacement of the existing bridge with a box culvert would result in the placement of approximately 43.5 cubic yards of permanent material below the Ordinary High Water mark of the stream. Temporary cofferdams would be constructed for the purpose of temporarily dewatering approximately 55 linear feet of Puncheoncamp Branch during the construction of the box culvert. The stream would be temporarily rerouted into a temporary channel that would be approximately 85 feet long, 5 feet wide, and 3 feet deep.

Plans of the proposed work are attached to this notice.

The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register that are in the area affected by the project. A copy of this public notice will be sent to the State Historic Preservation

Office for their review. Comments concerning archeological sensitivity of a project area should be based upon collected data.

The Huntington District has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is not likely to affect the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of a permit may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer on or before the expiration date of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected by the activity and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected by this activity.

Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act. Written statements on these factors received in this office on or before the expiration date of this public notice will become part of the record and will be considered in the final determination. A permit will be granted unless issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above.

This permit decision will not be made until the State of West Virginia, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. This public notice serves as application to the DEP for certification.

The DEP considers whether or not the proposed activity will comply with Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act and other appropriate State laws. Any person wishing to comment, provide information, and/or request a public hearing concerning the certification for this project should write:

Administrator
West Virginia Department of Environmental
Protection-Water Resources Section
10 McJunkin Road
Nitro, WV 25143
RE: Public Notice No. 200101075 CELRH-OR-F

All comments and/or requests for public hearings received by the DEP within thirty days from the date of this notice will be considered. Requests for public hearings will be evaluated under the provisions of DEP Title 47 Code of State Regulations, Series 5A,

Section 7.

Persons wishing to submit comments, objections or requests for public hearings concerning the Corps of Engineers permit should write:

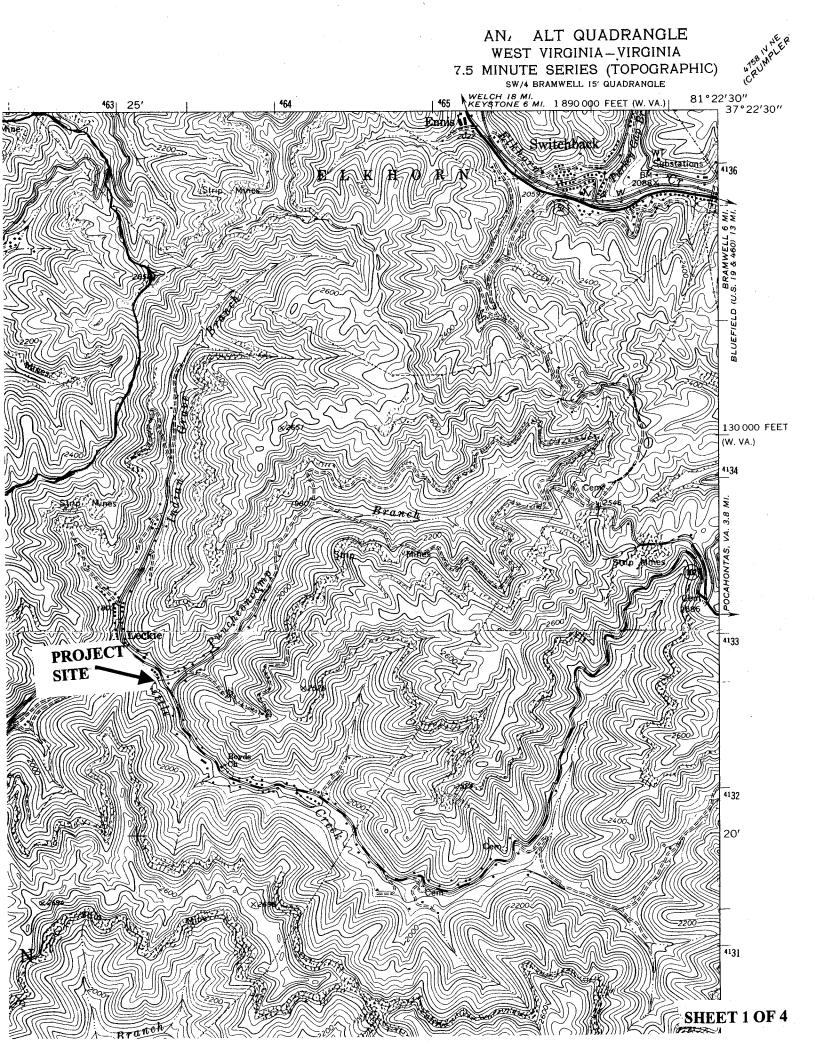
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: CELRH-OR-F Public Notice No. 200101075 502 Eighth Street Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

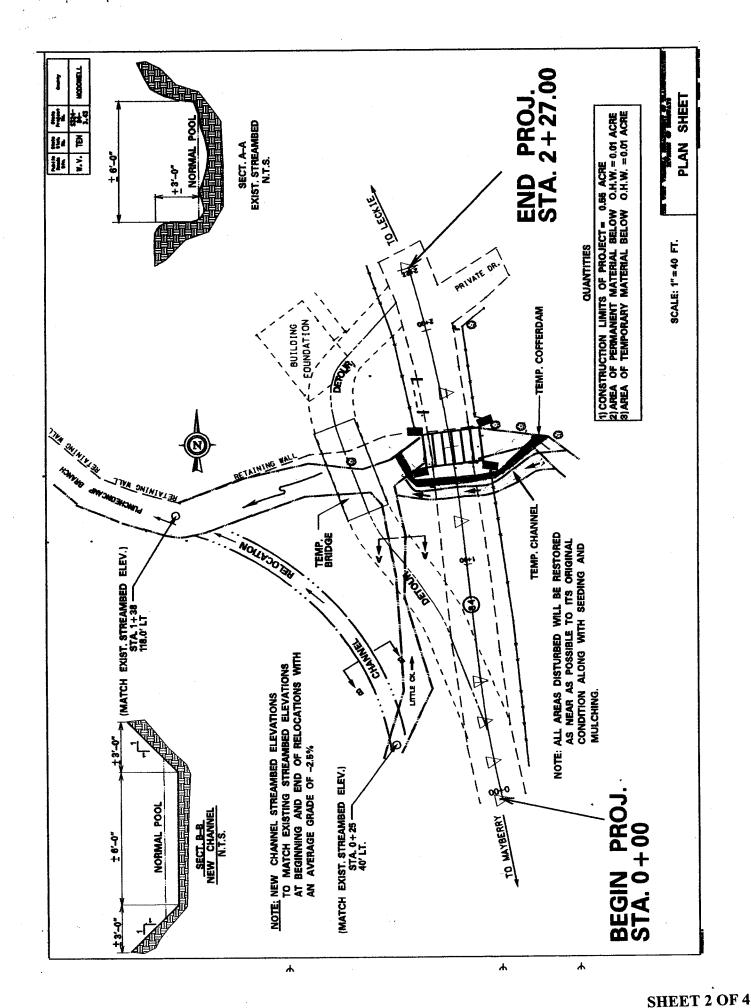
If you have any questions concerning this public notice, please call Ms. Kelly Kessler at (304) 529-5710.

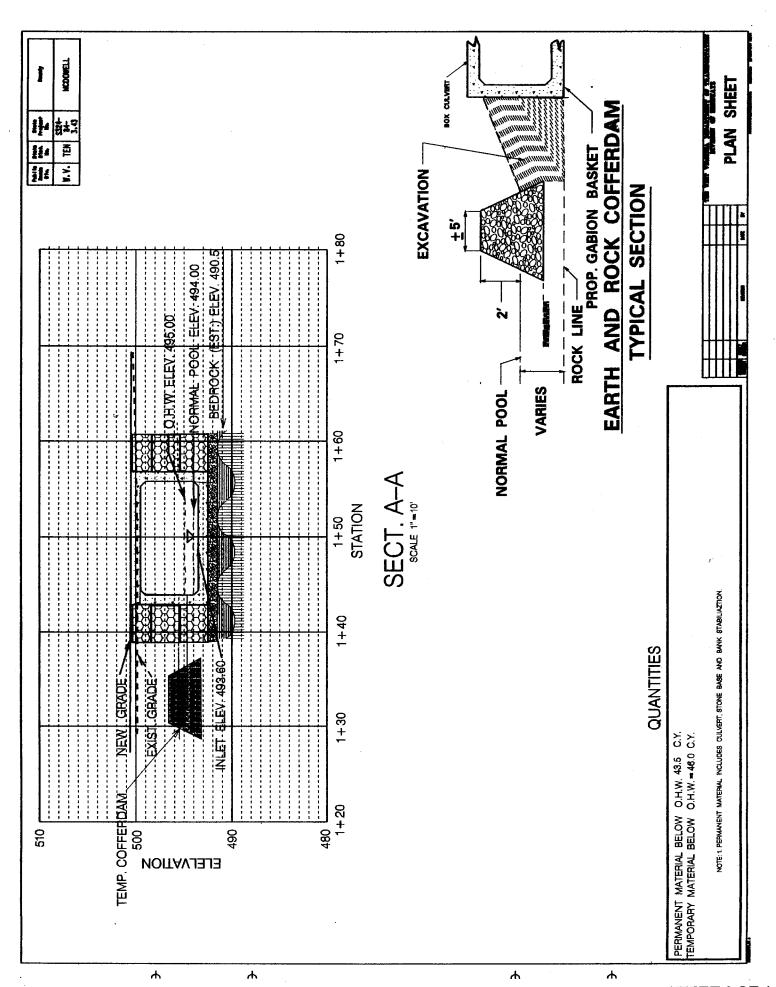
Michael D. Gheen

Chief, Regulatory Branch

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## **LECKIE**

In order to facilitate the installation of a box culvert carrying CR. 84 over Puncheon Camp Branch a cofferdam will divert flow into a temporary channel. The temporary channel is 5' in width, 3' in depth, and 85 long. This action will temporarily dewater 55' of the stream.

The permanent relocation of Little Creek will result in 80 CY (0.01 acres) of fill in to waters of the U.S.

Typical Cross Section of Temporary Stream Bed

